

CLAIMS:

1. A residential communication system (2) comprising a telephone gateway (4) and at least one station (6), the telephone gateway (4) and the station (6) being interconnected via a communication network (10), the telephone gateway (4) being arranged for receiving via the communication network (10) out-going telephone signals from the station (6) and for

5 supplying the out-going telephone signals to a non-residential telephone network (12), characterized in that the residential communication system (2) comprises a further telephone gateway (8), the further telephone gateway (8) being interconnected with the telephone gateway (4) and the station (6) via the communication network (10), the telephone gateway (4) being arranged for transmitting at least part of the out-going telephone signals via the

10 communication network (10) to the further telephone gateway (8), the further telephone gateway (8) being arranged for receiving the at least part of the out-going telephone signals via the communication network (10) from the telephone gateway (4) and for supplying the at least part of the out-going telephone signals to a further non-residential telephone network (14).

15 2. A residential communication system (2) according to Claim 1, characterized in that the telephone gateway (4) comprises a least cost router.

20 3. A residential communication system (2) according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the communication network (10) comprises a phoneline network.

4. A residential communication system (2) according to Claim 3, characterized in that the residential communication system (2) comprises a HomePNA communication system.

25 5. A residential communication system (2) according to any one of the preceding Claims, characterized in that the further telephone gateway (8) is comprised in a set-top box.

6. A residential communication system (2) according to Claim 5, characterized in that the further non-residential telephone network (14) is a CATV-network.

7. A telephone gateway (4) for use in a residential communication system (2) comprising at least one station (6), the telephone gateway (4) and the station (6) being interconnected via a communication network (10), the telephone gateway (4) being arranged for receiving via the communication network (10) out-going telephone signals from the station (6) and for supplying the out-going telephone signals to a non-residential telephone network (12), characterized in that the telephone gateway (4) is arranged for transmitting at least part of the out-going telephone signals via the communication network (10) to a further telephone gateway (8).

8. A further telephone gateway (8) for use in a residential communication system (2) comprising a telephone gateway (4) and at least one station (6), the further telephone gateway (8), the telephone gateway (4) and the station (6) being interconnected via a communication network (10), the telephone gateway (4) being arranged for receiving via the communication network (10) out-going telephone signals from the station (6) and for supplying a first part of the out-going telephone signals to a non-residential telephone network (12), the telephone gateway (4) being further arranged for transmitting a second part of the out-going telephone signals via the communication network (10) to the further telephone gateway (8), the further telephone gateway (8) being arranged for receiving the second part of the out-going telephone signals via the communication network (10) from the telephone gateway (4) and for supplying the second part of the out-going telephone signals to a further non-residential telephone network (14).